

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector for coupling to ~~an electrical a~~ coaxial cable having a ~~center conductor~~ a conductor and an outer insulation layer disposed around the conductor, comprising:

a housing having an axial bore therein for receiving ~~an electrical~~ the coaxial cable and defining a central longitudinal axis;

an electrically conductive clamp disposed in the bore of said housing ~~at the inner periphery thereof~~, said electrically conductive clamp having a pointed end shaped and sized for driving ~~into~~ through the outer ~~insulated~~ insulation layer and into engagement with said conductor of an electrical the coaxial cable, said clamp having a clamp driving surface generally defining a plane at an angle relative to said axis of said bore, said angle extending radially from said bore; and

a cylindrical compression ~~cap~~ device with a ~~closed end apertured to receive an electrical~~ an aperture for receiving the coaxial cable in passage to said housing, an outer periphery and a side wall sized at its said outer periphery for engaging the inner periphery of said housing, and said sidewall defining an open end of said aperture, said sidewall having a directing surface generally defining a plane in substantially the same angle as said angle of said plane of said clamp driving surface, said directing surface being disposed shaped at the open end of said side wall for engaging said driving surface the pointed end of said electrically conductive clamp to drive the pointed end thereof toward the axis of the bore in said housing thereby to mechanically connect an electrical cable to said housing,

said clamp driving surface and said directing surface being disposed and configured to lie substantially flush against each other when said compression device is pressed against said clamp, said driving and directing surfaces being disposed and configured for sliding against each other in a direction generally parallel to said angles for driving said pointed end into the coaxial cable.

2. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector for coupling to ~~an electrical a~~ coaxial cable ~~of the coaxial type~~ having a center conductor, ~~enclosed, in~~ an inner insulation layer disposed around the center conductor, and a conductive sheath around the inner insulation layer and an outer insulation layer overlying the conductive sheath, comprising:

a housing having an axial bore therein defining a longitudinal axis and an inner periphery for receiving a coaxial cable in one end thereof, said housing being electrically conductive;

an electrically conductive clamp in the bore of said housing and electrically connected to said housing at the inner periphery thereof, said electrically conductive clamp having a pointed end shaped and sized for driving into the outer ~~insulated~~ insulation layer of the coaxial cable to engage the conductive sheath thereof, said clamp having a clamp driving surface, and

a cylindrical compression cap having ~~a closed end~~ an end wall apertured to receive a the coaxial cable in passage to said electrically conductive housing and ~~having~~ a side wall sized at its ~~outer periphery~~ for engaging the inner periphery of said housing, said sidewall defining an and shaped at the open end and having a directing surface disposed at said open end of the side wall for engaging the clamp driving surface ~~pointed end~~ of said electrically conductive clamp, said directing and clamp driving surfaces having complimentary shapes and generally extending at

substantially the same radial angle relative to the axis of the bore so that said surfaces lie substantially flush against each other when said surfaces are pressed against each other, said surfaces being configured and disposed to drive the pointed end thereof of said clamp toward the axis of the bore in said housing when said surfaces are pressed against each other, thereby to mechanically connect a coaxial cable to said housing and to electrically connect the conductive sheath of a coaxial cable to said housing through said conductive clamp.

3. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 2 wherein said clamp driving surface and said directing surface are both flat and generally define parallel planes both disposed at substantially the same angle to said bore axis. ~~the pointed end of said conductive clamp is ramp shaped and the end of the side wall of said cylindrical compression cap is complementarily ramp shaped so that upon mutual engagement longitudinally along the axis of the said housing, the pointed end of said conductive clamp is driven radially toward the axis of said housing.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 3 2 wherein said housing includes a radially disposed electrically insulating wall terminating the bore therein and acting as a stop for a coaxial cable received in the bore.

5. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 4 wherein said insulating wall includes a center aperture for supporting an electrical conductor insulated from said electrically conductive housing.

6. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 5 wherein the center aperture of said insulating wall is adapted to receive and support the center conductor of a coaxial cable.

7. (Original) The electrical connector of claim 5 wherein the center aperture of said insulating wall is adapted to receive and support a conductive prong projecting into the bore of said housing for making electrical contact with the center conductor of a coaxial cable.

8. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 3 2 wherein the inner periphery of said housing and ~~the outer periphery of~~ said compression cap are threaded for longitudinal axial engagement.

9. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 3 2 wherein the inner periphery of said housing and ~~the outer periphery of~~ said compression cap engage in a longitudinal axial interference fit.

10. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 9 wherein the inner periphery of said housing and ~~the outer periphery of~~ said compression cap are cooperatively ridged and grooved to interlock in a longitudinal axial interference fit.

11. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector of claim 10 wherein said compression cap is of deformable material and the side wall of said compression cap is slotted between the point of interlock and the closed end thereof to deform radially toward the axis of the bore and to clamp on to the outer insulation layer of a coaxial cable.

Please cancel claims 12-14 without prejudice.

15. (Currently Amended) An electrical connector for coupling to an insulated electrical conductor with an outer insulation layer, comprising:

a housing having a first end for receiving an end of ~~an~~ the insulated electrical conductor and defining a longitudinal axis;

a clamp with at least one clamping arm ~~having a first end shaped~~ for penetrating ~~an~~ the outer insulation layer, of the insulated electrical conductor, said arm having a beveled edge with an generally extending surface at an angle relative to said axis;

a cap ~~for insertion~~ inserted into said first end of said housing for engagement with said clamp, said cap having a beveled edge with a generally flat surface disposed for lying

~~substantially flush against said beveled edge of said clamp arm after an end of the insulated electrical conductor is inserted into said first end of said housing,~~

wherein said at least one clamping arm is positioned within said housing such that once the end of the insulated electrical conductor is inserted into said housing, the insertion of said cap into the first end of said housing causes said first end of said at least one clamping arm to penetrate the outer insulation layer of the insulated electrical conductor.

Please cancel claims 16 and 17 without prejudice.

18. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector according to claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein inserting said cap into the first end of said housing causes said at least one clamping arm to make electrical contact with said housing such that said housing is in electrical contact with the outer conductor of the insulated electrical conductor.

19. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector according to claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein said at least one clamping arm is ~~integral~~ integrally formed with the housing.

20. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector according to claim ~~16~~ 15,

~~wherein the first end of said at least one clamping arm has a beveled edge,~~

wherein said cap and clamp are arranged so that as said cap is inserted into the first end of said housing, said a beveled edge of said cap pushes ~~the~~ said beveled edge of said at least one clamping arm such as to cause said beveled edges to slide against each other and causing the first end of said at least one clamping arm to penetrate the outer insulation layer of the insulated electrical conductor.

Please cancel claim 21 without prejudice.

22. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector according to claim ~~16~~ 15, wherein the cap threadably engages the first end of housing, such that the insertion of the cap is caused by threading the cap with respect to the first end of the housing.

Please cancel claims 23-31 without prejudice.

32. (Currently Amended) The electrical connector according to claim ~~31~~ 15, wherein the cap comprises at least one slot which allows the cap to compress when inserting the cap into the first end of the housing.